

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

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FITCH'S THORN LEAF APHIS.

BY A. C. BAKER.

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The publication by Quaintance and Baker<sup>1</sup> of a brief reference to *Aphis crataegifoliae* Fitch has called forth a number of inquiries by entomologists in regard to this name and that of *brevis* Sanderson. The facts are as follows:

In 1851 Fitch<sup>2</sup> described his *Aphis crataegifoliae* and his type specimens are now in the U. S. National Museum Collection. They have been removed from the pins and mounted in balsam and consist of alate viviparous females in rather poor condition. The species can, however, be easily determined from these types. It is the species found commonly curling the leaves of *Crataegus* in the Eastern United States and it is met with quite frequently also upon fruit trees. It proves to have a long beak and in this character is distinguishable from *Aphis bakeri* Cowen.

Recently Dr. Edith M. Patch<sup>3</sup> has published an account of two clover Aphids and has discussed the two species under the names *Aphis brevis* Sanderson and *Aphis bakeri* Cowen. Miss Patch was unable to obtain the types of *Aphis brevis*. The collections at that time were in Mr. Pergande's care. After Pergande's death, when the writer rearranged the National Museum Collection, he located Sanderson's types. Unfortunately these are sexes and a direct comparison with the Fitch types is therefore not possible. Reared sexes, however, have been compared with Sanderson's slides and alate forms of this same lot with the Fitch slides, and it is evident that the two are the same and

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<sup>1</sup> Farmers' Bulletin, U. S. D. A., No. 804.

<sup>2</sup> Cat. Hom. N. Y. State Cab., p. 66.

<sup>3</sup> Journal of Research, Vol. III, p. 431.

that *brevis* must become a synonym of *crataegefoliae*. The distinction of these species from *bakeri* given by Miss Patch is confirmed by the types of these two workers.

Sanderson was evidently led astray by the referring of Fitch's name to quite a different species closely related to if not identical with *prunifoliae* Fitch.

A study of *crataegefoliae* shows that it is not an *Aphis* but belongs to the genus *Anuraphis* as does also its close relative *bakeri*. Indeed, there is a group of American species in this genus having finely imbricated cornicles, the imbrications covered with minute points. Of this group *crataegefoliae* and *bakeri* live upon rosaceous plants and migrate to clovers during the summer. These two species will stand as follows:

***Anuraphis crataegefoliae* (Fitch).**

*Aphis crataegefoliae* Fitch, 1851.

*Aphis brevis* Sanderson, 1902.

***Anuraphis bakeri* (Cowen).**

*Aphis bakeri* Cowen, 1895.

*Aphis cephalacola* Cowen, 1895.